

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Saturday, May 9, 1863.

THE SITUATION.

The official report of Admiral Porter, recording his great success in the capture of Grand Gulf, Miss., was received at the Navy Department yesterday, and created much excitement in Washington. The possession of this point places the formidable rebel strongholds at Vicksburg and Port Hudson at our mercy. Admiral Porter says that he now holds the door to Vicksburg. The fight lasted five hours and a half. The forts were literally torn to pieces by the fire of our vessels, but all the guns captured by our forces were in good condition. The works at Grand Gulf were the most formidable ones the rebels possessed in the vicinity of Vicksburg. Admiral Porter and General Grant now hold them, and are remounting the guns. General Grant is reported by despatches from Cairo to have reached Port Gibson. Many of the rebels who fled from Grand Gulf were captured by our pursuing forces.

We have the authority of the Secretary of War, in his despatch to Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, yesterday, that the Army of the Potomac will speedily resume offensive operations; that, although the principal operations of General Hooker failed, there has been no serious disaster to the organization and efficiency of the army, and that not more than one-third of General Hooker's force was engaged.

The movements of General Stoneman's cavalry force, which formed the most brilliant episode in the nine days' fight of Hooker's army, are finely illustrated in the map which we publish to-day. It shows the different routes taken by the several divisions of the cavalry corps under Generals Stoneman, Averill and Buford, and Colonels Kilpatrick, Davis, and Wyndham. Starting from Kelly's Ford on the northwest, the lines of march are faithfully portrayed, (marked with the design of arrows) to all the points touched at—the portions of the track torn up, the bridges destroyed, and the spot where the canal was cut, near Columbia. The latest news reports Colonel Kilpatrick as having reached Gloucester Point, through Tunstall's Station, near Yorktown, where he joined General King. Of the brilliant movement of Colonel Kilpatrick's command, General King says in his official notice of his arrival at Gloucester Point:—"They burned the bridges over the Chickahominy, destroyed three large trains of provisions in the rear of Lee's army, drove in the rebel pickets to within two miles of Richmond, and have lost only one lieutenant and thirty men, having captured and paroled upwards of three hundred prisoners. They have marched nearly two hundred miles since the 3d of May. They were inside of the fortifications of Richmond on the 4th, burned all the stores at Aylett's Station on the Mattaponi on the 5th, destroyed all the ferries over the Pamunkey and Mattaponi and a large depot of commissary stores near and above the Rappahannock, and came in here in good condition." A splendid record this for any officer.

The roads to Gloucester and Tunstall's will be found indicated on the map. The operations of General Hooker are also carefully illustrated—the localities of the battles of Marye's Hill, Salem Heights and Chancellorsville—and the points on the Rappahannock where the army crossed and recrossed.

The rebels admit the loss of eighteen thousand men in the late battles. This brings the returns very close to the figures estimated in the statements made on our side, which put the loss of the enemy at about twenty thousand.

The story of our special army correspondents is continued in our columns to-day, and we need do no more than refer to it here. As an evidence of enterprise, assiduity and brilliant descriptive power, from beginning to end, it is unmatched on the records of war correspondence.

Not the least remarkable in this interesting budget, is the account of our captured correspondent, his experiences in Richmond, and his trip to and fro while in the hands of the Philistines.

The President has issued a Proclamation preliminary to the enforcement of the Conscription act, defining the position and obligations of inchoate citizens under that law. Persons of foreign birth who have declared their intentions to become citizens, are, by this proclamation, pronounced liable to be drafted, if after the expiration of sixty-five days from the date thereof they still remain within the territory of the United States. In connection with the Proclamation, we give to-day a list of those classes who are exempt owing to physical disability.

The defenses of New York harbor have been the subject of much attention from committees of the State, the United States and the city. Plans and suggestions have been presented from

our parties. One of the designs for the effective protection of the harbor we give to-day on our first page, and we recommend our readers to the careful study of it.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

While entering the harbor on Thursday, the agent in charge of our packages fell overboard, losing most of the late despatches brought by the steamship Columbia from New Orleans and Havana. Fortunately the news was not of immediate importance. The packages were ultimately recovered; but there is no news from Mexico or Havana to report. The next steamer from Vera Cruz will probably bring stirring news concerning the operations of the French army against Puebla. We beg leave to return our thanks to Mr. David Snediker for his kind efforts to save our packages, which he afterwards delivered at our office.

The great Texas expedition, which was originally started by Jim Lane for the purpose of liberating slaves, has been again revived under General Blunt, and is now in course of reorganization at Fort Scott, in Kansas. It will contain, besides a couple of colored regiments, volunteers from Kansas and Nebraska, a regiment from Colorado Territory, and about five thousand Indians. Its march, as originally designed, will be through the Indian Territory, Arkansas and Louisiana into the heart of Texas.

The Washington papers report that a large number of the rebel prisoners taken near Fredericksburg have expressed a desire to take the oath of allegiance, and a still larger number, not wishing to be exchanged, are willing to give their parole not to trouble the South again with their presence during the war.

Jennie De Hart, Orderly Sergeant of Company D, Jenkins' rebel cavalry; Mary Jane Green, who was employed by Gen. Lee to cut telegraph wires, and Maria Murphy, a rebel mail carrier and spy, were arrested at Point of Rocks, Md., on the 6th inst., and taken to Baltimore. They are represented as being three fine specimens of Southern female chivalry.

Major James H. O'Connor, of the Third Illinois cavalry, has captured a confederate widow, named Mrs. Laura Briscoe. They were married last month, at the encampment of the regiment, near Helena, Arkansas. The bride is a near relative of the rebel General Hindman, and owns considerable property at Helena, besides a good share of the Southern "peculiar institution."

John C. Keilher was brought before Justice Dodge, at the Tombs, yesterday, on a charge of stealing \$1,000 worth of silks from his late employers, Messrs. Arnold, Constable & Co., of Canal street. The accused was arrested in Philadelphia, where he had gone to dispose of the goods and hide himself from the police.

A man and his wife and five children (slaves) were burned to death in a barn which had been set on fire, at Cumberland, Maryland, on the night of the 26th ult.

The losses by the fire in Denver City, Colorado Territory, on the 19th ult., amounted to only about two hundred thousand dollars, instead of a million, as first reported. The destruction was confined to Blake, McGee and F. streets.

Twenty-two divorces were granted by the Supreme Court of Connecticut at its April sitting.

The General Assembly of the Old School branch of the Presbyterian Church will meet at Peoria, Illinois, on the 24th inst. The New School Assembly will be held on the same day in Philadelphia.

The official returns of the late election in Connecticut show that Thomas H. Seymour, the copperhead candidate for Governor, ran three hundred and twelve votes behind his ticket.

Mr. Lewis Smyser, who was arrested in Louisville for talking treason, has been required to sign a parole and give bonds in one hundred thousand dollars, in order to gain his liberty. He will probably now keep quiet.

In the United States Court at Cincinnati, on the 28th ult., fourteen suits to collect interest revenue from parties refusing to pay were decided in favor of the government. The persons who held back will thereby be saddled with nearly five times the original amount.

The Provost Marshal of St. Genevieve county, Missouri, has issued an order suppressing, at all the post offices in that county, the *New York Freeman's Journal*, the *New York Occasional*, the *Dubuque (Iowa) Herald*, and the *Chester (Ill.) Picket Guard*.

Thirteen negroes were sold in Louisville on the 27th ult. at prices averaging five hundred dollars each. The sale was made by the Sheriff, in opposition to the orders of the Provost Marshal.

Thomas M. Campbell, who was recently convicted by a court martial at Cincinnati on the charge of being a spy, will be hung next Friday.

In the Merchants will case the claimants have rested their testimony, and the contestants are busily engaged furnishing evidence against the alleged will.

A special meeting of the Board of Councilmen will be held at two o'clock to-day for the purpose of taking some action in reference to the recent death of Mr. John Hogan, ex-Councilman for the First ward, who died at an early hour yesterday morning, from congestion of the brain. The funeral will take place from his late residence, No. 4 Bowling Green, on Sunday.

The building No. 9 Pell street, now in process of demolition, fell about eight o'clock last evening and buried two men beneath the ruins. Captain Jordan, of the Sixth precinct, was promptly on hand, with a platoon of men, and succeeded in rescuing the sufferers from their perilous situation. Neither of the men were fatally injured.

In the Court of Oyer and Terminer yesterday, before Judge Ingraham, Asa Crosby, indicted for the murder of his wife, but convicted of manslaughter in the second degree, was sentenced to hard labor in the State prison for five years.

In the Court of General Sessions yesterday, before City Judge McCunn, Thomas Roache, tried on an indictment for receiving stolen goods, was acquitted. William Hegner was tried on an indictment for grand larceny, which charged him with having stolen forty yards of Kentucky jeans, valued at \$30, from 229 Greenwich street, on the 24th of March last. The jury brought in a verdict convicting the prisoner of an attempt at grand larceny. George Langdon, a Virginia contraband, who guessed he was about forty years of age, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with having assaulted Theodore H. Peterson, another gentleman of color, residing at 79 Laurens street, on the 16th of March last. Ernest Hamblin, alias Ernest Helmut, a German, about thirty years of age, employed as a clerk at 281 Bowery, pleaded guilty to an indictment for grand larceny which charged him with having stolen gold and silver coin, United States Treasury notes, bank bills and jewelry, to the amount of \$1,097 75, from his employer's store, on the 24th of March last. The prisoners will be brought up for sentence to-day.

The stock market was again very buoyant, yesterday, everything rose, and closed higher than the day previous. Pittsburg rose 9 per cent. Gold was again tame and lower, closing at five P. M. at about 124 1/2. Exchange closed at 106 1/2 a P. M. Money was active, and worth about 6 per cent on call.

Cotton was dull and heavy yesterday. There was less activity in breadstuffs and provisions at declining prices. Heavier sales of sugar, molasses, tallow, rice, crackers and meat, were effected at buoyant rates. A fair business was reported in fruit, hay, East India rice, fish and chemicals, with moderate transactions in most and other articles. The freight engagements were checked by the high claims of ship owners. The chief business in dry goods was that transacted by the jobbers and through the auction rooms, but the sales were on a restricted scale, as usual toward the end of a season of active trade, prices were in favor of purchasers. The week's imports of dry goods amounted in value to \$1,053,694, and the amount marketed was \$559,120.

The New Campaign—The Army of the Potomac—Who is the Man to Command it?

The Secretary of War, in his despatch of yesterday to the Governor of Pennsylvania, says that although "the principal operations of General Hooker failed, there has been no serious disaster to the organization and efficiency of the army;" that "not more than one-third of General Hooker's force was engaged;" that "General Stoneman's operations have been a brilliant success," and that "the Army of the Potomac will speedily resume offensive operations."

These official statements are encouraging if we may accept them as involving a new commander to the army; but otherwise they amount to nothing. Under the circumstances, it may be something to boast of that the army has suffered no serious disaster, and is still strong, compact and efficient; but no more damaging confession could be made in regard to General Hooker than that "not more than one-third" of his army was engaged in all his three days' battles around Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. In this fact alone it is evident that his army was two-thirds larger than his abilities to manage it. We would not be cruel toward General Hooker. He is sufficiently punished by his deplorable failure where he had promised and had the means and the opportunity for a glorious success. We may say, however, that in the division of his forces when he should have massed them against the enemy; in his movements to avoid a general engagement where he should have tried it; in fighting upon the defensive with only one-third of his forces, when he should have acted upon the offensive with his whole army; that in his delay to bring out the enemy after crossing the river, and in permitting them, en masse, to operate first upon one flank and then upon the other; and that, finally, in recrossing the river, when by the concentration of his columns the enemy dared not attack him, it is abundantly proved that General Hooker has neither the skill, the grasp of mind, nor the steadiness or self-possession which ought to belong to the commander of the Army of the Potomac.

So conclusively do we regard the facts against him that we take it for granted that General Hooker is to be set aside. He has had a fair trial, a splendid opportunity; he has signally failed, and simple justice to the brave army which he has so grievously disappointed demands his removal. Who, then, is the man to command the Army of the Potomac? General Sedgwick, with his detached corps, has done wonders; all the other corps commanders are, so far as we know, entitled to honorable mention. General Butterfield, chief of General Hooker's staff, appears to have distinguished himself only in keeping out of range of the enemy's fire. As for General Carl Schurz, that noisy politician, who brought disgrace upon his division of brave Germans, he is not fit to command anything, and ought to be turned adrift. What officer in the Army of the Potomac is the proper man to lead it?

The very interesting photographic details which we have published from our correspondents on the field of Saturday's and Sunday's engagements around Chancellorsville indicate the individual. General Daniel E. Sickles, commander of the Third Army corps, is that man. Had his advance upon the enemy on Saturday been promptly and strongly supported by General Hooker, the stampede of the Eleventh corps might have been avoided, and the day might have closed with our army on the high road to a decisive victory. In all the details of Saturday's and Sunday's operations the reader will perceive that General Sickles displayed that quickness of perception, that promptness in action, and that never failing self-possession which distinguish the great commander. Against the possible objection that he has had no education at a military academy, we need only say that Julius Caesar, Oliver Cromwell, General Washington, General Jackson, General Scott, and a host of other distinguished military chieftains of the past and the present, may be placed in the same category. Active campaigning is the school in which the man of true military genius learns more of the art of war than can be gained by most men in a lifetime at West Point.

[We despair of that complete reorganization of the War Office and its system of warfare which is so much demanded to overthrow the armies of the rebellion. We fear that President Lincoln's amiable weakness for Stanton and Halleck is a weakness which cannot be shaken. We presume that pride of opinion will settle the case against McClellan; that no other general who has been tried and dropped will be taken up again to command the Army of the Potomac, and we conclude that, with the dropping of Hooker, some other officer of his army will be appointed in his place. We therefore would call the attention of President Lincoln to General Sickles as the man for this position, for he has shown in the recent nine days' campaign on the Rappahannock the skill and coolness of a great commander in the hour of action and the crisis of danger.]

PARTY TACTICS—THE LAST MOVE.—The Mosart wing of the democracy held a pow-wow the other night, at which some very spirited resolutions were passed in favor of peace. James Brooks was present and made a strong speech in their support. Fernando Wood was, for some reason or other, out of the way; but it was understood that he fully concurred in them. Neither did Horace Greeley show his face, which caused a good deal of surprise in view of his declaration that if the war was not over by the 1st of May he would go in for a compromise with the rebels. The real object of the meeting, however, was not to accommodate matters with the South, but to checkmate the Albany Regency. The move was, in point of time, a blunder. The Mosart men should have waited until a few weeks before the Presidential election of 1864. By taking this course they would have been able to talk out as they pleased, for so great will be the excitement of the public mind by that time that government would never dare to interfere with them.

VALLANDIGHAM'S ARREST.—The arrest of Vallandigham was evidently illegal. General Burnside is now really dashing himself against the law as he did against the rebel fortifications at Fredericksburg. But it is the policy of the democracy to keep cool and be quiet. All such cases will tell in their favor in the next election. When they have control of the government, in 1864, they can take Wendell Phillips, Greeley and a few other fanatics, and hang them higher than Haman, under the very laws which the fanatics themselves have passed.

ONE THING DECIDED.—That Joe Hooker is not a competent person to criticize the campaigns of General McClellan.

The Generalship of Hooker Brought to the Test.

The nine days' events on the Rappahannock have brought the generalship of Hooker to the test. It was an easy matter for him to criticize the generalship of Burnside and McClellan in leading an army of 100,000 men against Richmond. But he now finds it a very different affair to lead the same army himself, to the same destination. He was confident, when examined before the Congressional Committee on the Conduct of the War, that he could have marched into Richmond at any time at his ease had he been at the head of the Army of the Potomac instead of General McClellan; and if he had had command instead of Burnside he would have achieved wonders. He had recently stated that the army he led was "the finest on the planet," "an army of veterans," as the *Tribune* remarks, "superior to that of the peninsula;" and so large was it that Mr. Stanton, in his despatch to Governor Curtin, asserts that not more than one-third of the force was engaged in the late struggle—in other words, that Hooker had more troops than he knew what to do with. Nor is this all. He is allowed by Lee to cross the Rappahannock without opposition and without loss, and to have secured a position he deemed impregnable—one which, according to the order he issued on Thursday, the 30th of April, had rendered it necessary that "the enemy must either ingloriously fly or come out from behind his defenses and give us (the Union army) battle on our own ground, where certain destruction awaits him"—an order which, in view of the events that followed, reminds us of the bombast of Pope. The enemy did not ingloriously fly, but gave the Union army battle on its own ground, and so far from "certain destruction" being his fate, he compelled "Fighting Joe" to recross the Rappahannock, with a loss variously estimated at twelve, twenty and thirty thousand men. By the occupation of Chancellorsville we were told the retreat of Lee was cut off over the turnpike road to Gordonsville, and if Stoneman should only prove successful in his mission, and cut the railroad, the whole army of Lee must be killed or captured. It turns out that Stoneman did his subordinate part well. But how was the principal role in the drama performed? How did the Commanding General acquit himself and redeem the pledges he gave? He had everything his own way; his communications with his rear intact, and not even threatened. Why did he fail? There is a despatch from the opposing general, which we published yesterday; but from Hooker not a word. It is stated for him, indeed, by some anonymous correspondent, that his defeat and retreat are owing to three causes: First, the flight of the Eleventh corps; second, the rising of the Rappahannock; and third, his ignorance of the success of Stoneman's expedition. It has also been stated by others that he has complained of Sedgwick's corps not gaining the heights of Fredericksburg in time. Now, it is evident that if these reasons are founded in fact, they still resolve themselves into the question of generalship, and prove that Hooker was really outgeneralled, when Lee, playing a far deeper game of strategy, only seemed to be in a dangerous position, and very soon turned the tables against his adversary. Before crossing the Rappahannock Hooker had calculated that Lee had not more than half the army with which he had fought Burnside; that a large portion of it had gone south of the James river to the vicinity of Suffolk, to North Carolina, and even to Tennessee; and that the residue would therefore fall an easy prey. He was confirmed in his delusion by the facility with which he had been permitted to effect the crossing. What then must have been his astonishment to find before he had his line of defense completely formed that Lee was upon him in overwhelming numbers, and instead of having turned the left flank of the rebel general his own right flank was turned, his right wing driven in with confusion, and the panic extending to his centre; thus losing possession of Chancellorsville, and with it the road to Gordonsville, and being compelled to change his front and contract his line to save his army from being cut off from the fords and the pontoons?

Before he had struck a single blow he found himself on the defensive, and his communications seriously menaced. Instead of advancing rapidly against Lee he waited for Lee to attack him, forgetting the maxim that *ceteris paribus*, the assailing army in a battle has more courage than the army defending itself, and that only the possession of some very strong position can counterbalance the disadvantage of waiting to be assailed. Napoleon understood this; for in almost every battle he was the assailant. Stoneman Jackson follows his example. But Hooker, who earned the sobriquet of "Fighting Joe," both as a division and as a corps commander, appears to fight rather shy at the head of an army of a hundred thousand men.

Great credit is assumed for the successful strategy by which Hooker crossed to the south side of the Rappahannock. But it is highly probable that this is due less to him than to the rebel general, who preferred fighting him on his own side of the river, in the hope of capturing his whole army; and that he escaped was probably owing, in a great degree, to the severe wound which disabled Stoneman Jackson, the right arm of Lee. Hooker's attributing his failure to not hearing from Stoneman is only saying that he did not send him on his errand in time. This was part of his business as Commanding General. As it turned out, it would have been far better he had not sent Stoneman at all; for the presence of so large a body of cavalry on the field would have saved his right flank, and perhaps turned the scale of battle in his favor. Nor will it do to say that he did not calculate upon the rising of the Rappahannock. A good general would make such calculation. So far from the failure of Sedgwick's corps to co-operate in time being the cause of the defeat, it was a faulty disposition of his troops by Hooker to separate a single corps from his main body, with the enemy between, and ought not to have been attempted. The disorganization of the Eleventh corps by having its flank turned is only another proof of bad generalship; but it was afterwards remedied, and therefore could not have been a cause of the final retreat, seeing that two-thirds of the troops had not been called into action. Why were not these brought forward on Sunday and Monday?

As a tactician on the battle field, as well as a strategist in preparing the means of rendering the battle decisive if won, Hooker is equally at fault. It is stated that it is owing to the presence of mind and coolness of General Sickles that the panic of Saturday did not result in a total disaster and the loss of the whole

army. Hooker, instead of holding his whole army in hand as a skilful chess-player holds four horses, guiding and controlling each and all, busied himself on the field about trivial details which belonged to subordinates. He has proved his total incapacity to lead a great army. It is stated by Mr. Stanton that "the Army of the Potomac will speedily resume offensive operations." We trust it will not be under Hooker, who ought to be at once removed, and his place filled by Stoneman or Sickles. To send the army, already demoralized, to fight under Hooker again would be highly criminal.

For what has been already done they owe a very large share of the responsibility. The plan of the late campaign looks beautiful on paper. It is the *ammonda* system again. An army in North Carolina, an army south of the James river in the vicinity of Suffolk, and an army under General Dix operating up the peninsula, were all to concentrate on Richmond in co-operation with Stoneman's cavalry, whose business it was to cut the communications between Lee's army and all the rebel troops south of him. If the rebels were strong at Richmond or beyond the James, then Lee would of course be weak, and Hooker could bag him. If, on the contrary, there was only a small force near Richmond, then Hooker could hold Lee in check while Stoneman's cavalry and the Union infantry in the vicinity would be sufficient to capture the rebel capital. That they failed to do so is owing to the defective nature of the arrangements made by the military authorities at Washington. Simultaneous co-operation was wanting, and the rebels were allowed to hold their interior lines, unless so far as the communication was interrupted by a temporary raid, which was rendered of no strategic value from the failure of other armies to co-operate at the same time; and while a handful of rebel troops, magnified into a great army, kept large Union forces at bay in Southern Virginia Hooker was overpowered by Lee on the Rappahannock with an immense host. And such is the way the War Department has blundered in every campaign from the beginning of the struggle.

Greeley and Raymond Eating the Bitter Leek.

While the retreat of the Army of the Potomac is a source of deep regret to the whole country, it is difficult to restrain a smile at the evident chagrin of Greeley, Raymond and the radical faction at the discomfiture, not of the army, but of their favorite General Joe Hooker. After all their blusterings and bragadoos, their praises of Hooker's boldness and brilliant strategy, their contemptuous references to other and slower generals, and their predictions that he would capture or annihilate the whole rebel army, they are now forced, like Ancient Pistol, to eat the bitter leek and acknowledge themselves arrant braggarts and boasters. To them may be aptly addressed the words of Fluellin to Pistol:—"I beseech you heartily, scurvy, lousy knaves, at my desires, and my requests, and my petitions, to eat, look you, this leek; because, look you, you do not love it, nor your affections, and your appetites, and your digestions do not agree with it, I would desire you to eat it." And eat it they do, with a vengeance, in yesterday's edition of their papers.

Raymond, the Little Villain, tries to wriggle out of the affair by saying that we ought to keep silent about it until further developments. He then proceeds to neglect his own advice by devoting several columns to the subject. We think his example better than his precept. Why should we say nothing about Hooker's failure? The result of a battle is as decisive as the verdict of a jury, and the battle being over, the case is open to comment. On the whole, Raymond believes that "the great rise in the river, consequent upon the tremendous and most unseasonable storm, was, perhaps, the one fatal cause" of Hooker's defeat. Poor Greeley, on the contrary, makes a scapegoat of the Eleventh corps, which he wishes to have "decimated and disbanded," and says that "General Hooker was doubtless keenly disappointed and greatly disconcerted by the panic flight of the Eleventh corps on Saturday, by which his combinations were defeated and victory snatched away when it seemed already within his grasp." Apparently conscious of the weakness of this theory, and anxious to dodge the bitter leek by some other device, poor Greeley continues:—"If Hooker made any grave mistake—and we lack the requisite knowledge, even if we had the strategic ability to determine whether he did or did not—we should say that it was his inaction on Monday." But why blame the unreasonable rise of the river, or the panic of the Eleventh corps, or the inaction of Monday? Why not boldly admit that Hooker failed because he was outgeneralled? If a conservative General stood in Hooker's boots would Greeley and Raymond be so excessively mealy-mouthed? Why not charge Hooker with "Imbecility" or with "treason," as they have charged other generals? Are politics and prejudices to be thus allowed to warp their judgments and stifle their utterances? Is the leek so very bitter and unpalatable?

General Hooker publicly stated some time ago that he had "the finest army on the planet." He took this army across the Rappahannock, and issued a general order in which he declared that "the enemy must ingloriously fly or come out from behind his defenses and give us battle on our own ground, where certain destruction awaits them." The enemy did not "ingloriously fly." They "came out" and gave Hooker battle "on his own ground," but the "certain destruction" did not follow, at least on the rebel side. Now, when a former campaign failed, General Hooker said, under oath, that the failure "was to be attributed to want of generalship on the part of the commander." Hooker "did not hesitate to say" this; and why should we hesitate to say that the want of generalship of the present commander has occasioned our present defeat? It is astonishing how very pious Greeley and Raymond become in order to avoid this sage and inevitable conclusion. Poor Greeley announces that, although previously worse than an infidel, he is now convinced that "God knows." The Little Villain is equally converted, though in a different sense; for he says that God rains, and that the rise of the Rappahannock was, therefore, "beyond human control." It is curious how much more pious and tender-hearted the Little Villain is in regard to the rise of the Rappahannock than in regard to the rise of the Chickahominy. By to-morrow or next day both these fanatical blunders will discover that Hooker failed because the President did not issue another Emancipation Proclamation. They have proceeded as far as Providence already in

their endeavor to find excuses for incompetence, and we may be assured that they will trot out the irrepressible negro next. In this connection, let President Lincoln shut his ears to their balderdash—which has been, for the thirtieth time confused—an "emancipation" for another campaign. The preliminary order for a draft is issued to-day; but that is not enough. There must be radical changes in the Cabinet and among our commanders. The War Department needs especial attention, and some such General as Banks must take the place of Stanton and Halleck before anything can be accomplished either among the people or against the rebels. The President has another grand opportunity to act decisively and insure success. Let him take advantage of it at once, and we will take care of Greeley and Raymond and the rascally crew of abolitionists who are now dividing the bitter leek of popular contempt with this pair of Pistols.

Our News from Nassau—The Emancipator of Secession.

We publish to-day a very interesting letter from our special correspondent at this now historic home of secession. The news contained in this letter will be found to be of great public interest. The traffic in cotton between the rebel States and this nest of secession has increased to an extent almost incalculable. According to our correspondent, the people of the Northern States can form no idea of the lucrative trade thus carried on between the rebels and our "neutral" English cousins. The fact is that Nassau has become the centre of an illicit trade in cotton—a staple of so much importance to British capitalists and manufacturers—producing immense advantages to the rebel cause and throwing millions of dollars annually into the pockets of their merchants. The importance of Nassau to the rebels has long since been admitted by friend and foe. There is no other island in the West Indies, Cuba scarcely excepted, that exercises such a dangerous influence against the commerce of the North. The trade between Nassau and the ports of the Southern confederacy is most extensive, and there is no channel through which the rebel cause has so largely benefited.

All the news that we have hitherto received from this hotbed of secession has come through governmental and other official sources. This of itself may well account for the irregularity of our information and the unreliable guise in which it has frequently come. Nassau, we know, is one of the most important positions to the cotton trade of the South, and therefore, at our own expense, we have thought it proper to send out a special correspondent to keep the public informed as to everything that is progressing there. Of course the government of the United States is, and has been, fully represented at Nassau through its consular agents; but these gentlemen, being necessarily circumscribed in their views and facilities, have only been able to transmit such information as they could obtain through official sources. Our valued correspondent now sends us the fruits of his own personal observations, and the facts which he discloses are worthy of the attention of the government, while they are of the highest interest to the people.

The letter published to-day will be generally read. It is the first from a place where intelligence is "as rare as it is important. In discharging the duties of a first class paper, the *HERALD* scatters its correspondents everywhere, and from Nassau, the British hotbed of secessionism, we may now expect information that will startle rebels and aid to strengthen the cause of the Union.

THE BROADWAY RAILROAD.—The Governor's veto on the Broadway Railroad grant has given very general satisfaction. We say this on broad grounds, and not in reference to the details of the measure in question. All the schemes, in fact, that have been "brought forward" for appropriating our great central thoroughfare to this use have, with one exception (that of the property holders), been stock jobbing speculations. The struggle with them, all has been to give as little as they could in return for this valuable franchise. The Legislature showed by its recent action that it was bought up almost to a man by the money of these concerns, and that the rights and interests of the city had not the slightest weight with it. The veto of the Governor defeating the present measure therefore entitles him to the gratitude and respect of the community. It not merely rebukes the shameful corruption by which it was passed, but it re-establishes our municipal rights of self-government, which since the republicans have been in power have been gradually ignored and set aside, until they have become almost entirely absorbed in a central despotism at Albany. We have labored steadily to counteract this fatal influence, and we now gladly acknowledge the eminent service which Governor Seymour has rendered the community by giving practical effect to our recommendations.

Musical.

"EMMANUEL" AT THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The announcement of Verdi's most pleasing opera, "Emmanuel," drew the most appreciative audience not evening to the Academy of Music. The performance was a most successful one. All the artists were in excellent voice, and drew from the audience enthusiastic applause. We have never heard Miss Guerrbelli to such advantage as in the role of Emma. She sang the music sweetly, without any effort, and, from that very fact, was all the more successful. The cavatina in the first act she rendered with great expression and grace, and was warmly applauded. In fact, throughout the opera she received warm tokens of approval. Signora Massolini, Bellini and Bligh were also immensely successful. The grand finale of the first act was received with enthusiastic applause. We lack space to enter into the details of the performance, but would refer especially to the terrace in the second act, sung by Miss Guerrbelli, Massolini and Bligh, which was never sung with more spirit. It was encored, and an effort was made by the delighted audience to induce the artists to sing it a third time. The finale of the third act stirred the audience up to a similar show of enthusiastic approval. In fact, the opera was received with the warmest of the audience. The artists were all well before the curtain fell each act.

Next week we are to have "Emmanuel" with Miss Guerrbelli, who will be doubtless be most successful in the part. To-day there is a grand matinee, upon which we cannot fail to be given for the last time.

On Monday night Miss Parker makes her debut, in the "Producers."

GRAND CONCERT AT IRVING HALL.—We would call special attention to the fact that Mr. Theodore Thomas' concert takes place to-night at Irving Hall. The grand symphony, "Harold in Italy," by Berlioz, composed by eighty musicians, will be given, while a number of our most popular artists will lend their aid, to render this one of the most brilliant concerts of the season. The production of the grand symphony is an enterprise entailing Mr. Thomas to the liberal aid and encouragement of all lovers of music. There will doubtless be a most satisfactory result, and we cannot but regret that the night at Irving Hall.